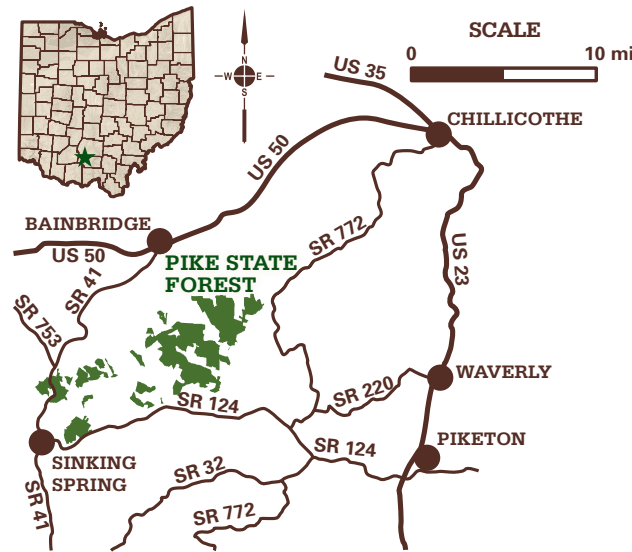


Forest Rules

1. Pike State Forest is open to visitors between 6 a.m. and 11 p.m. daily. Legal campers and hunters may be present during other times.
2. Operation of motor vehicles is restricted to roads provided for such travel. Speed limit on state forest roads is 30 MPH unless otherwise posted. Vehicles may not be parked where traffic or access to division service roads or trails is obstructed.
3. Horses may be ridden along forest roads or on designated bridle trails.
4. Fires are not permitted except in grills or fire rings provided, or in portable stoves. Fires must be attended to at all times.
5. Trash must be disposed of in receptacles provided or "pack-it-in/pack-it-out."
6. Camping is not permitted.
7. Hunting and fishing are permitted in most state forests as regulated by the Division of Wildlife. Shooting is prohibited on, from, or across any road or driveway. Discharge of any firearm is not permitted except during lawful hunting season.
8. Public display or consumption of any alcoholic beverage is prohibited.
9. Disturbance, defacement, or destruction of any property, material, natural feature, or vegetation is prohibited. Berries, nuts, and mushrooms may be gathered and removed except from posted areas.
10. State forest boundaries are indicated with yellow blazes on the trees and/or posted signs.

Location Map



General Location Map of Pike State Forest.
Map does not include some local roadways.

Additional Information

Ohio Division of Forestry
Southern District Office
345 Allen Ave.
Chillicothe, OH 45601
(740) 774-1596

Pike Lake State Park
1847 Pike Lake Road
Bainbridge, Ohio 45612-9625
(740) 493-2212

EMERGENCIES—Call 911

1.877.247.8733
forestry.ohiodnr.gov



Complete rules for state forests are found in the Ohio
Administrative Code Section 1501:3

Division of Forestry · 2045 Morse Rd. Bldg H1 · Columbus, Ohio 43229
Equal Employment Opportunity Employer M/F/H



PIKE

STATE FOREST

Welcome to Pike State Forest

Acquisition of the first state forests began in 1916, originally to be used as testing grounds for reforestation of tree species. Land acquisition later broadened to include land of scenic and recreational values and to restore forest cover to land that had been abandoned and abused. Today, Ohio's 24 state forests cover over 200,000 acres and provide an abundance of benefits for everyone to enjoy. With the advantage of decades of management, Ohio's foresters are enhancing nature's growth cycle and continuing to produce some of the finest hardwood trees in the world on state forest lands. Forest management activities such as timber stand improvement, prescribed fire, and harvesting are employed to enhance the health, vigor, and natural regeneration of the forest. But foresters' concerns go well beyond the trees. Evaluations of water, soil, wildlife habitat, age and condition of the vegetation, recreational opportunities, and aesthetics are considered in preparation of area management plans. This process ensures that visitors may enjoy many outdoor activities including camping, hiking, horseback riding, wildlife watching, hunting, and scenic touring.

Forest History

Land acquisition for Pike State Forest began in 1924, with the objective of returning abused hill farms and fire-damaged timber lands to productive forests. Most of the reforestation work was completed in the 1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Division of Forestry. Pike State Forest now covers more than 12,000 acres in western Pike County and eastern Highland County. State ownership is broken up into 13 separate, irregular shaped tracts.



Recreation

The forest offers a wide range of outdoor recreational opportunities. The Pike State Forest APV area is located off of State Route 124. The facility has 10 miles of trail open to motorcycles and off-road all terrain vehicles. The trails wind through the hollows and ridge tops, offering the visitor a challenging ride as well as some beautiful scenery and breathtaking views. Parking, latrines, and a novice area are all provided on the site. Valid vehicle registration, protective head gear, and eye protection are required. For the equestrian, there are 38 miles of bridle trails located on the forest. Beautiful scenery and challenging terrain greet riders as they wind through the forested hills and valleys. Hiking is permitted throughout the forest, including on the bridle trails and on the Buckeye Trail, which runs through the forest. Bird watching, photography, collecting nuts, berries, and mushrooms are all pursuits which hikers may enjoy. For those who want to stay on the beaten path, there are numerous county and township roads that pass through the forest. During the spring, the redbud and flowering dogwood trees provide spectacular displays of color, not to mention all the wildflowers that blanket the forest floor. The hills

come alive again in the fall with a panorama of vivid colors. Scenic vistas also await the visitor who wants to tour the forest by car. Pike State Forest is open to public hunting and fishing, in season. Hunters can pursue many species of forest game including squirrel, grouse, deer, turkey, raccoon, opossum, and rabbit. Fishing is also available at several ponds located in the forest. Anderson Lake, off of Dry Bone Road, is a popular spot that offers quiet seclusion among the hills and trees.

Other Area Facilities

Pike Lake State Park, located in the middle of Pike State Forest, offers a variety of recreational facilities and activities including camping, cabins, swimming, fishing, hiking, and boat rentals. Additional ODNR recreation facilities are available near Pike State Forest. Paint Creek, Lake White, and Rocky Fork State Parks are just a short drive, and offer camping and water recreation. Other attractions include Kincaid State Fish Hatchery, Fort Hill State Memorial, and the Stone House Historical Landmark. Neighboring state forests to Pike are Scioto Trail State Forest in Ross County, and Brush Creek State Forest in Adams County.

Hunting and Fishing

Hunting and fishing are permitted under Division of Wildlife regulations. Shooting is prohibited on, from, or across any road or driveway. Discharge of any firearm, except during lawful hunting, is also not permitted. Please note that one tract off of Turner Ridge Road is posted as a "No Hunting Zone".

"Promoting and applying management for the sustainable use and protection of Ohio's private and public forest lands."

